

Appln. No. 09/744,605

Amd. dated July 14, 2004

Reply to Office Action of March 15, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

12 (Currently Amended). A method of inducing the death of undesirable cells and/or stimulating ~~stimulate~~ an immune response, ~~comprising the administration to a patient of administering to a patient in need thereof~~ a) a substance which promotes the targeting of the PML protein towards the nuclear bodies ~~and/or PML stabilization~~ and b) the PML protein and/or an agent inducing the overexpression of the PML protein, wherein the death of undesirable cells is not due to apoptosis.

13 (Currently Amended). [[A]] The method of claim 12, wherein the substance which promotes the targeting of the PML protein towards the nuclear bodies ~~and/or PML stabilization~~ is selected from the group consisting of 1) an arsenic compound; 2) a compound having the same biological properties as arsenic; 3) caspase inhibitors; and 4) caspase substrates.

14 (Currently Amended). [[A]] The method of claim 13, wherein said arsenic compound is arsenic trioxide.

15 (Currently Amended). A method of claim 13, where wherein said caspase inhibitor is zVAD.

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16 (Currently Amended). [[A]] The method of claim 12, wherein said agent inducing the overexpression of the PML protein is an interferon.

17 (Currently Amended). [[A]] The method of claim 16, wherein said interferon is selected from the group consisting of α -interferon, β -interferon and γ -interferon.

18 (Currently Amended). [[A]] The method of claim 12, wherein ~~administration of a) and b) is simultaneous or sequential~~ are administered simultaneously or sequentially.

19 (Currently Amended). A method of inducing the death of undesirable cells and/or stimulating ~~stimulate~~ an immune response, comprising [[the]] administering to a patient in need thereof a) an arsenic compound, a compound having the same biological properties as arsenic, a caspase inhibitor ~~inhibitors~~ or a caspase substrate; and b) an interferon, wherein the death of undesirable cells is not due to apoptosis.

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

21 (Currently Amended). A method of inducing the death of undesirable cells in vitro, comprising bringing undesirable cells in contact with a) an arsenic compound, a compound having the same biological properties as arsenic, a caspase inhibitor ~~inhibitors~~ or a caspase substrate and b) ~~a substance being associated with the PIVIL protein and/or~~ an agent inducing the expression of the PML protein.

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Claims 22 and 23 (Cancelled).

24 (Currently Amended). A method of ~~inducing the death of undesirable cells and/or of stimulation~~ stimulating an immune reaction, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a caspase inhibitor and/or a caspase substrate.

25 (Currently Amended). [[A]] The method of claim 24, wherein said caspase inhibitor is zVAD.